

Application Number: 10/554,191  
Reply Dated April 16, 2010  
Office Action Dated: December 16, 2009

**REMARKS**

This amendment is responsive to the Election Requirement dated December 16, 2009 for which a one (1) month period of response was given. A Petition and fee for a three (3) month extension of time accompany this paper. Should an additional extension of time and/or any further additional claim fees be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to treat this paper as a Petition for any needed extension of time and to charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 50-0959, Attorney Docket No. 089498\_0449.

Claims 1 through 14 and 35 through 48 are pending in the present application. Claims 15 through 25 have been withdrawn but are being maintained as Applicants' undersigned representative may seek rejoinder of these claims if permitted under the rules. Claims 26 through 34 have been cancelled as these claims are directed to non-elected inventions. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to one or more sets of the non-elected claims at any time permitted under the rules. As such, entry and consideration of the amendments to the claims and the remarks which follow is believed due and is respectfully requested.

I. Restriction Requirement:

A Restriction Requirement has issued against claims 1 through 48 as originally filed. Specifically, the Examiner has required election to one of the following Groups of claims:

- Group I: Claims 1 through 4 and 35 through 48 (drawn to a fibrous assembly);
- Group II: Claims 15 through 25 (drawn to a method of making a fibrous assembly); and
- Group III: Claims 26 through 34 (drawn to a method of medical treatment).

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Applicants, via their undersigned attorney, elect Group I (drawn to a fibrous assembly), without traverse. Regarding the claims of Group II, as noted above, these claims are being withdrawn so as to preserve the right, if applicable, of rejoinder under the rules.

II. Conclusion:

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing in more detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

/Joseph J. Crimaldi/

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